

# THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL,

OR,

## Political, Commercial, and Literary Gazette.

Vol. VI.]

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1819.

No. 223

### ASIA.

The interest constantly felt in every thing that relates to the transactions of Europe, so engrosses the attention of a certain class of our Readers, that they are never satisfied when this does not form the leading feature, and occupy the largest portion of our Paper. Others again feel so deeply interested in the topics of local agitation, that there is no portion of our columns which they regard with such avidity as those devoted to these discussions. A third class will hear of nothing but Deaths and Promotions, Arrivals and Departures; and the last and most difficult of all to please, are those who require that one subject should never be touched on twice; but that whether satisfactorily elucidated, adjusted, or decided, it should be dispatched with the magic hand of a legerdemain performer, or settled in the dogmatic tone of authority from which there is no subsequent appeal, in order to make room for that perpetual succession of novelty and variety, which their versatility of taste requires.

It will be conceded to us, however, we hope, that if amusement be one of the principal objects of a periodical publication, utility is a still nobler aim; and that where this is lost, sight of, whether the disquisitions be Military or Civil, Literary or Miscellaneous, they are divested of their strongest claim to public attention. We avow with pride that the last has with us been the first, and that altho' novelty and variety have never been lost sight of or disregarded, we have conceived that to advocate right principles, to foster laudable feelings, to stimulate beneficial enquiries, and to raise the Press of this country to the dignity which it has attained in our own, was a more worthy object than to court popularity or to increase the circulation of our labours, by pampering the taste of the community, without reference to the food with which this was effected.

If this unworthy object had been our aim, we conceive that nothing would have been more easy. To denounce the measures of distant Governments, which could in no degree have affected our immediate interests;—to speculate upon the expected and probable changes among the men in office at home;—to deprecate the slightest allusion to every thing connected with India;—to leave local evils to remedy themselves;—to applaud, whether we admired them or not, the easy and accommodating principles of Indian Society, which seem to be in a great measure founded upon the vulgar notion "of doing at Rome as the Romans do," or the more sacred one of "being all things to all men."—To do all this, without regard to the abstract right or wrong of the case, would have been an easy task for those who had no fixed principles of their own, or who felt no interest about those of others. It is a task, however, to which we shall never condescend to stoop, and one to which we are proud to believe ourselves utterly inadequate.

Those who remember the motto which we affixed to our early Prospectus, now more than a year ago, will best judge whether we have not shewn its truth and applicability, by the course of that year's experience "*A forward retention of custom.*" says the sage and venerable Bacon, "*is as turbulent a thing as innovation, and they that reverence too much old times are but a scorn to the new.*" This is one of those truths which are suited to all ages and countries; and indeed we might ask,—if the spirit of reformation had not triumphed over the demon of *custom*, how would our civil and religious freedom have been wrought out, and our emancipation from the chains of slavery and superstition been effected? or indeed how would the rapid march of civilization which has transformed, in ten centuries, the savages of Britain into the monarchs, the philosophers, the lawgivers of the world, have gone on, if "the forward retention of custom" had prevailed?—Yet "the very head and front of our offending," appears to be the having broken through it.

If we advocate false doctrines, let them be shewn to be such; for Truth and right Reason are omnipotent, and must prevail. But let us not be arraigned as criminals while endeavouring to encourage that which we contend has brought our own country to the pitch of unparalleled eminence, from which she regards and regulates, by the influence of her collective wisdom, the affairs of half the world. We shall still continue to pursue, unshaken and unawed, the sacred duty that the genius of our excellent Constitution imposes on every man who devotes himself to the public service. The mode of effecting this, and the extent to which it is carried, must be regulated by considerations which it must be admitted are still more powerful, we mean a regard to the preservation of a blessing that has been granted us, and which we value too highly to risk the loss of, by exciting feelings of hostility towards it, mixed up with the animosity so zealously and intemperately expressed against ourselves. The cause is a sacred one, though we may be unskillful advocates of it. We desire however to see the distinction as much as possible preserved. We are prepared to bear the brunt of all the persecution that it may bring down on our heads, and should not be ashamed of martyrdom in such a cause, if called on to resign our charge into more worthy

hands; but as long as a British feeling shall remain among those who bear the name of Britons, whether in the East or the West, we do trust that the magnitude of the blessing which has been conferred on India by its present Ruler will never be forgotten. If we have misconceived its extent, or misapplied its use, we shall deservedly suffer the imputation of ignorance for the one, and want of judgement for the other; but criminality of intention it belongs only to the great Searcher of all Hearts to impute, and this we shall never make the subject of human appeal.

Our readers will not be at a loss to understand the reasons which have led us into these observations; and we shall add to them a short notice, which we intended to have printed separately under its proper head, but which will be quite in place here.

The Editor of the India Gazette having referred his readers to what he himself has written upon the subject of the Liberty of the Press, at different periods, and desired them to form their own judgement on the subject, we cannot do better than simply join in that request;—and both on this subject and on the Vestry Question, we desire to be understood as having expressed only that which we really thought and felt on two subjects of great public interests, and that our opinions on both remain unchanged.

We can easily perceive, however, that the further prosecution of either, from the novelty of free discussion in this country and the unprepared state of the public mind to separate men from measures, and personal character from public principles, is likely to be productive of acrimony and irritation to the parties who are engaged; and as our object is still, and ever will be, (whatever false construction the taunts and envy of our co-temporaries may give it,) the promotion of PUBLIC VIRTUE and of PUBLIC GOOD, we shall leave the merits of these respective questions exactly as they stand, without further agitation or comment; expressing only our hope that the time will arrive, when the bad passions that have been unnecessarily exercised, and the prejudices which have been unfairly suffered to exist on these subjects will subside; and when the questions, viewed in their abstract light, will receive all that calm consideration and reasonable attention, in the spirit of a search after truth, which will place them on their right basis.

On the subject of the Letter from *Nasrabad*, which it is broadly insinuated by a Correspondent in the India Gazette of yesterday, was manufactured at our Office (though this gives us credit for a much more intimate acquaintance with the country than we ever professed to possess) we fortunately have the original of that Letter in our hands, for the refutation of so unfounded a charge. The inflammatory language with which this is worked up, and the inferences that are attempted to be drawn from it by the writer of this comment, leaves his motives and his wishes no longer questionable;—and the publication of this cry of alarm, coupled with the challenge in the Postscript, and the reference to the Restrictions of August 1818, so unnecessarily intruded on public notice (being directed to six individuals only, and not to the community of India,) has shewn us that the Editor and the Correspondent are identified in sentiment if in no other respect, and that there is every thing to be dreaded and nothing to be hoped for, from leaving the defence of what is termed *rational* and *legitimate* Liberty in such hands. We shall readily yield our all, rather than endanger that Liberty by provoking further controversy; and even if our motives for future silence are; as we can readily believe they will be, misinterpreted, sneered at, and denounced, we shall have that consolation of which it is in the power of no human force to rob even the weakest, and be content with this reward. Our answer to all future comments will be those memorable, those exalted, those ennobling sentiments, which should be engraved on a plate of pure gold, like the memorable sentence of the Jewish lawgiver, and worn as the breast-plate of Liberty; which should be preserved as the amulet of the Easterns, with the most religious reverence;—which should bind the brow in fillets, like the sentences worn by the Israelites;—and, more than all, which should be indelibly impressed on every heart that yet retains a feeling of attachment to those principles that distinguish the glorious Constitution of our country from that of almost all others on the face of the globe.

"My removal of restrictions from the press, has been mentioned in laudatory language. I might easily have adopted that procedure without any length of cautious consideration, FROM MY HABIT OF REGARDING THE FREEDOM OF PUBLICATION AS A NATURAL RIGHT OF MY FELLOW SUBJECTS, to be narrowed only by special and urgent cause assigned. The seeing NO DIRECT NECESSITY FOR THOSE INVIDIOUS SHACKLES might have sufficed to make me break them. I know myself, however, to have been guided in the step by a positive and well-weighed policy. If our motives of action are worthy, it must be wise to render them intelligible throughout an empire, our hold on which is opinion,

Further, it is salutary for SUPREME AUTHORITY, even when its INTENTIONS are most pure, to LOOK TO THE CONTROL OF PUBLIC SCRUTINY. While conscious of rectitude, that authority can lose nothing of its strength by its exposure to general comment. On the contrary, it acquires incalculable addition of force.

THAT GOVERNMENT WHICH HAS NOTHING TO DISGUISE, WIELDS THE MOST POWERFUL INSTRUMENT THAT CAN APPERTAIN TO SOVEREIGN RULE. IT CARRIES WITH IT THE UNITED RELIANCE AND SUPPORT OF THE WHOLE MASS OF THE GOVERNED: AND LET THE TRIUMPH OF OUR BELOVED COUNTRY, IN ITS AWFUL CONTEST WITH TYRANT-RIDDEN FRANCE, SPEAK THE VALUE OF A SPIRIT TO BE FOUND ONLY IN MEN ACCUSTOMED TO INDULGE AND EXPRESS THEIR HONEST SENTIMENTS."

**Neemutch.**—The following is an Extract of a Letter from the Cantonments at Neemutch, dated 11th October, 1819.

"Last night, exactly at 50 minutes after 6 o'clock, a Comet was seen here. It was very bright, large, and round, with a brilliant fiery tail. It came from the east, and took a direction to the northward of west. It will be acceptable to know from Calcutta, at what time it has been observed there, and in what direction it took its course."

We have only to remark on this communication, that we shall feel obliged to any of our astronomical Friends, who may be enabled to gratify the wish of our Correspondent, in the particulars on which he requests information, to which we shall most readily give a place, for public use.

We may add, that a description of the country of Neemutch will be found in one of our late Numbers, for Friday, October 8, 1819, from the pen of a Friend resident there, and that its position has been accurately ascertained, to be in lat. 24° 21' 13" N. and 9½ miles to the westward of the town of Jaoud or Johud.

**Bombay, Oct. 9, 1819.**—We understand, that the Right Hon'ble Sir Evan Nepean has taken his passage in the free trader *Albinia*, Captain Lynn, for London, to sail about the 1st November; and that the Hon'ble Mr. Elphinstone is expected to arrive at the Presidency on the 28th instant.

Having noticed a few weeks since some regimental subscriptions recently made to the Education Society, we have much pleasure in adding to the list, an annual subscription of Rs. 200, from the Officers of the 2d Battalion 6th Regiment. Some liberal donations have also been received from other corps; particularly from all the Officers present with the 2d Battalion 5th Regiment.—The cause of the Institution has been also well supported in the Southern Concan, through the exertions of J. H. Pelly, Esq. of Bancote.

**Madras, Oct. 12.**—The season for Shipping arrivals is nearly over; three days more and the customary warning against vessels entering the Roads will be exhibited in the striking of the Fort Flag-Staff. It is not likely from present appearances, that any material change in the weather will take place before the new moon,—mean while the homeward bound Ships are fast completing their lading, and some have sailed.

The Honorable Company's Chartered Ship *Catherine*, Captain Knox, commenced her voyage on Sunday morning, with the Passengers mentioned in our last. After Packets were opened for her, which were not closed till Saturday.

The Bengal Merchant has proceeded to Covelong, and is expected here again immediately to convey his Excellency M. Le Baron Des Bassayn De Richmond, and Family and Suite, to Bengal.

During the visit of his Excellency at the Presidency, the fashionable world at Madras has evinced its capability for mirth and festivity in an unusual degree. A constant succession of gaiety has taken place nightly for the last fortnight, during which many elegant private entertainments have been given, and there yet are more to follow.

The last Quarterly Session of Oyer and Terminer and General Goal Delivery for the present year, commenced yesterday with the usual formalities before their Lordships, the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Stanley.

The following Gentlemen composed the Grand Jury.

Honorable L. G. K. Murray, Foreman.

Francis A. Robson,	A. D. Campbell,	R. A. Maitland,
E. C. Greenway,	W. T. Blair,	Robert Hunter,
Francis Fauquier,	William Hart,	Thomas Parry,
R. Maconochie,	Richard Clive,	G. M. Knox,
William Oliver,	William Harrington,	and
John Gwatkin,	J. Horsley,	J. Beaumont, Esq.

The Chief Justice charged them in an address replete with legal learning. The time for our appearance before the public is so near at hand, that we cannot publish the charge in our present number, but as we have taken notes of what fell from his Lordship, we intend giving an outline of the charge in a future number.

In our last we gave a transcript of the Calendar, since which Thomas Hall and John Merchant, Privates, in His Majesty's 30th Regiment, and Robert Brown, seaman of the Ship *Tottenham*, have been committed for trial, the latter for stealing one bottle of Sherry Wine, of the value of four shillings, the property of the Commander of that Ship!!

During the day several Bills were found, but that against the wine bibber was endorsed "No Bill."

**Madras, October 14.**—The Flag Staff of Fort St. George, will be struck to-morrow, according to annual custom; in preparation for the stormy weather expected after the middle of this month. The wind has been from the Northward these two or three days past, attended by fine and comparatively cool weather.

At the Meeting of the Madras Literary Society on Saturday, we are sorry to observe, no Papers were read; but several new Members were balloted for and elected. We congratulate the Society upon this addition to its Members and Funds. The following are the names of the new Members:—

Francis Fauquier, Esq.	J. F. Thomas, Esq.	J. B. Pybus, Esq.
Captain Elliott.	W. Mackenzie, Esq.	R. Stuart, Esq.
Captain J. W. Wood.	R. Andrews, Esq.	T. Higginson, Esq.
R. Eden, Esq.	G. W. Saunders, Esq.	Dr. Mitchell,
E. Uthoff, Esq.	E. Woodcock, Esq.	and
J. F. Lane, Esq.	Major Jones,	Dr. Irving,

The Society is in a very flourishing way; and, we shall be able to boast soon, of having a valuable and extensive Library.—A letter was read from the Secretary to the Bombay Literary Society, communicating the following resolution.

That any Member of the Literary Society of Madras who may occasionally be at Bombay, shall have free access to the Library.

John De Fries, Esq. presented the Society with a valuable copy of the "Antiquités D'Herculanum" in twelve volumes, for which he received the unanimous thanks of the Meeting.

The Secretary announced a donation from J. Heath, Esq. at Salem, of a considerable number of minerals, collected in various parts of Southern India; and, of a small basket of minerals found in the country situated between Nellore and Hyderabad, by Dr. Voysey, the Geologist attached to Colonel Lambton's survey.

R. A. Maitland was unanimously chosen a Member of the Managing Committee, in the room of the late Reverend Archdeacon Mousley, D. D.

Another bequest was made to the Society, of a manuscript Tamil Grammar from the late Lieut. C. C. Natter, of the Engineers, transmitted by his Executor, the Hon. Arthur Cole.

## Earthquake at Wallajahabad.

To the Editor of the Madras Courier.

SIR,

If you think the following account, of a slight shock of an earthquake felt here, last night, worthy of a place in your valuable miscellany, it is, I assure you, much at your service.

It was about ten o'clock P. M. I had not been in bed many minutes, before I was alarmed at hearing a confused noise or rumbling, not unlike the approach of some heavy vehicle over a rough pavement. I must mention, that for upwards of half an hour previous to this period, the little wind that had refreshed us during the day, entirely subsided, the atmosphere became excessively close and sultry, most remarkably so, even for this climate. The lightning was very vivid and much forked, appearing both to the Eastward and Southward, accompanied at intervals by loud claps of thunder. The moon, which had from its first rising, a remarkable halo, was now entirely obscured by dark clouds, rendering the partial illumination of different objects by the lightning, still more awfully terrific. It was nearly half an hour after the first alarm, when I was again startled by a repetition of the former noise, although the concussion was now much louder; this lasted for a few seconds, when I felt my bed suddenly moved with a lengthened undulatory motion, the horrors of which it is impossible to describe. All the doors, as well as window-shutters, were violently agitated, the walls of the barrack appeared to rock, and a large heavy frame standing in the next room, was thrown from the wall with some force; during the period this shock lasted, the whole house was agitated, and appeared waving to and fro. I must confess I felt considerably alarmed, and pictured to my imagination, the dreadful calamities occasioned by the great earthquake at Lisbon, and fancied that those slight shocks might only be a prelude to an equally terrible catastrophe. This last shock was succeeded by a most violent clap of thunder, the rain at the same time falling in torrents. Fahrenheit's thermometer rose several degrees previous to this phenomena, which, indeed, as generally remarked, has at all times been preceded by a great denseness in the atmosphere, particularly in tropical climates.

The only damage I have as yet heard of, that accrued from the shock last night, was the destruction of a temporary wall at the N. E. end of the mess room of the Royals, which fortunately was only partly erected, intended for a defence against the violence of the approaching monsoon. Providentially no lives were lost, although several of the mess servants were sleeping near the spot. I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

M. Q. B.—Y.

Wallajahabad, Oct. 3, 1819.

P. S. Should I by chance hear of the direction in which the shocks proceeded, or of any further mischief being done, I shall not fail to inform you, if I perceive, by the insertion of this hurried description, that my information is acceptable.



## Useful Municipal Regulations.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

The community of Calcutta having been much benefited by the strenuous exertions you have made for the reformation of existing abuses, and the success those endeavours have experienced, encourage me to point out some Regulations, which have effect at Bombay, and which if carried into execution here, would not only remove sundry nuisances, but would occasion an instantaneous change in the conduct of the Servants and Bearers of this Presidency.

It is not necessary to mention the complaints that are so general against Calcutta Servants; they are well known; but until the Magistrates have the power of punishing any neglect or ill conduct, no beneficial change will ever ensue.

I am, Mr. Editor, your obedient Servant

Calcutta, October 30, 1819.

TYRO.

*Abstract of the Rules, Ordinances, and Regulations: passed for the good Order and Civil Government of Bombay, according to the Statute passed in the forty seventh year of his present Majesty, George the Third.*

## RULE, ORDINANCE AND REGULATION I. 1812.

## Title First.—Of Magistrates.

Two Justices of the Peace appointed Magistrates of Police. The Senior Magistrate to have charge of the fort and the harbours of Bombay, and the Junior Magistrate to exercise authority over the rest of the Island.

## Title Second.—Of the Petty Sessions.

Court of Petty Sessions to meet at the Police Office every Monday morning at 10 o'clock, to consist of the two Magistrates of Police, and one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace to attend by rotation.

## RULE, ORDINANCE AND REGULATION I. 1814.

For vesting in two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, power to decide all disputes between masters and household servants; and for empowering either of the Police Magistrates to decide summarily on acts requiring moderate but immediate correction.

## Title First.—Regulations with respect to Servants.

Complaints between masters and servants in regard to wages are rendered cognizable before two Justices: as well as any acts of misdemeanour in a servant; the offender to be punished by imprisonment in Bombay goal and kept at hard labor for a term not exceeding one month, or by abating a portion of his wages and dismissal from service. No servant to be discharged before the end of his term, unless for some reasonable cause to be allowed before two Justices, nor is any servant to be discharged at the end of his term without seven days' previous notice, under a penalty on the master not exceeding 20 rupees. In like manner, if any servant leave his place before the end of his term, except for reasonable cause to be shown to the justices, or depart at the end of his term, without seven days' previous notice, he may be punished by fine not exceeding one month's wages, or commitment to goal and hard labour not exceeding one month.

## Title Second.—Regulations with respect to Hamauls or Palanquin Bearers.

No Hamaul to be discharged without one day's warning given, or one day's wages paid; but the master may keep him in arrear for a period not exceeding 14 days. No Hamaul can leave his employ without one day's notice, except it shall appear to the Magistrate, that the master has acted improperly towards the Hamaul. The Magistrates may fine to the amount of 100 rupees any master discharging or illtreating hamauls. Upon complaint by a master against any servant or hamaul, for misconduct requiring moderate and immediate correction, the Magistrate of Police is empowered to punish the offender by fine not exceeding five rupees, or by causing him to receive a number of lashes not exceeding 12 for each offence.

## RULE, ORDINANCE AND REGULATION II. 1815.

For widening the wheels of Hackeries and other native conveyances.

## RULE, ORDINANCE AND REGULATION III OF 1815.

For enlarging, explaining and amending Rule, &amp;c. I. and III. of 1812.

Any person committing a Nuisance to be fined to the amount of 3 rupees, or imprisoned for a fortnight, on conviction by confession, view of Justice, or oath of one witness.

Owners and drivers of carriages, carts, hackeries, or riding horses, punishable by fine or imprisonment for driving or riding violently or furiously; or, by negligence or misbehaviour, for causing damage to any person, or to any cart, &c.; or for quitting the cart so as to have no management of the animals drawing them; or if the driver of an empty cart neglect to turn aside for a loaded cart, or carriage.

## Moral and Military Character of the Army.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

I am acquainted with few subjects of interest or importance, on which so little has been said, or written, as on the Moral and Military Character of the Native Part of the Indian Army. It is a subject, Sir, which well deserves the services of the ablest pen; and in sending you a few lines on the Bengal part, (with which alone, I am intimate) of that Army, I am actuated more by a wish to illicit information and remark, from those better qualified than myself, to give them, than by any expectation, that the following faint sketch will be found to possess much of either novelty or importance.

I send you, Sir, merely a rough outline, but if any more skilful hand should be induced to fill up the picture, my object will be obtained, and many of your numerous Military Readers, highly gratified.

The most striking military features, in the character of the Bengal Sipahs, are, I conceive, personal courage, inflexible patience under hardships and privations, implicit obedience to superior authority, and a warm attachment to their European Officers. Their moral shield shines not with so bright a lustre as their military, although it is adorned, with "many a gem of purest ray serene," with many a gem, almost unknown in European Armies. The sobriety and humanity of the Bengal Sipahs, are always strikingly conspicuous. An instance of drunkenness is a phenomenon, and the writer of this article (though upwards of ten years in the service) has never once seen a Sipahs intoxicated. Their humanity, in even the heat of action, has been often remarked by their officers, and (in such instances) has often been blamed. Be it so; it is still a virtue and a proud one.

On turning to the unfavorable side of the picture, we find the most prominent figure on the canvas, to be Falsehood. Of the beauty of Truth, a Native is but little susceptible; her charms, are never unfolded to his view in youth, and he seldom or never discovers them in after life. Avarice (more particularly amongst the Hindoos) is frequently met with, and not infrequently is aided by falsehood and imposition, in increasing its hoard. Amongst the Moosulmans, on the contrary, extravagance, dissipation, and debauchery, are much more prevalent than economy; and probably the largest proportion of those in the Army, who have no resources but their pay, are deeply involved in debt.

As Soldiers, the difference of character between the Hindoo and Moosulman, is not very striking to a superficial observer; but there are a few shades, which it may be well to mention.

The Hindoo is the most patient, the most orderly, and possessed of the most fortitude. The Moosulman has most life and spirit, most enterprise and most active courage. The latter is best for attack, and the former for defence. The conduct of the contending Armies, in the Battle of Waterloo, ("si parca licet componere magnis") will illustrate the difference in question, much better than I can explain it. The desperate valour, the fury of the French in their successive and frequent attacks, and the undaunted firmness and fortitude of the British which repulsed them. The latter is the most difficult, and the most noble courage; and to the Hindoo, it must in right be given; while to the Moosulman, may be assigned the more dashing, the more conspicuous, but less solid valour, of the French.

The greatest part, both of the virtues and vices of the Native Soldiers, may be deduced from their religious prejudices, or from prejudices, supposed by themselves to come under that denomination. This however, is a point, which would lead me far beyond the limits of your Journal, were I to attempt to enter into particular details. It may be safely, however, and briefly affirmed, that the Sipahs are all predestinarians, from the most untutored Hindoo, who knows not the meaning of the word, to the more learned Moosulman, who gathers it, and his belief in it, from the Koran.

That this belief is the inspirer of courage, (or rather, of deeds, which may deserve the epithet of courageous) is beyond a doubt, and requires no illustration; but, for the heroism, the devotion, with which the Troops of Bengal, have ever followed their Officers, (even where hope has despaired of success or escape,) we are not probably less indebted to the spirit of discipline so strictly preserved in the Army, and to the confidence and attachment, in and for those Officers, which have ever formed so distinguishing a trait, in the character of the Sipahs. Their rigid principles of strict obedience, their unlimited confidence in the superior talent, the bravery and discretion of their Officers, and the high sense of honor, which forbids the Sipahs to desert his leader in the hour of danger, are the chief causes to which we must attribute the unparalleled successes and glories which reflect such a lustre on our Indian annals, from the time of a Clive, to that of a Hastings. As long as they have European Officers to lead them to glory, and to set them the example of fortitude under adversity, patience under privations, and gallantry in conduct, the Bengal Sipahs, I may safely affirm, will never, (as they never have been) be found wanting in the day of trial. Their most inveterate religious prejudices have been known to "hide their diminished heaves," to vanish, in fact, before the sacred duties of a Soldier; and such, I trust, and firmly believe, will ever be the

case, as long as the Army is *Officered* as it has hitherto been; as long as in other words, as the men can look up with pride to the valour, and with confidence in the honour, the kindness, and the discretion of those, whom they are taught to obey, as their Leaders, their Supporters, and Friends.

The attachment and affections of the Sipahs are so easily won, that it is no wonder they are so universally possessed by their European Officers; and it may not be deemed superfluous to mention, what I conceive to be the most effectual line of conduct to obtain and secure so very important an acquisition.

Affability, with proper dignity of manner, occasional trifling condescensions, and above all a patient and easy attention to what they may have to speak of, regarding themselves, or their families, their prospects, or their grievances, with an anxiety to redress the latter, or, in any way, befriend the former, are in my opinion, the most certain and effectual methods of gaining the confidence, and of engaging the attachment of these our Noble Soldiers. If they meet with encouragement to do so, they are particularly fond of coming to their Officers, on all occasions, where they themselves, or any of their connections, are in difficulties, or distress, and if they are simply listened to, with patience and attention, their gratitude is probably greater than it would have been for an important obligation. Assist them, where practicable; where otherwise, *listen to*, and advise them; and but once lead them to believe, and be convinced, that you take an interest in all that concerns them, that you are not indifferent to their welfare, or feelings, and you make them your own for ever.

To do this, requires, I acknowledge, a great degree of patience and temper; their little tales or complaints, are frequently frivolous and tiresome, to a degree that would probably have wearied old Job himself; and to this must be attributed the circumstance, that they are in general but little encouraged by their Officers, to be too frequent in their communications. The Officer, however, who can sufficiently command his patience and temper, will find himself amply recompensed, by the never failing smile of gratitude and affection with which he will always be greeted by those whom he has thus simply, and, I may add, (in spite of bile), thus *easily*, obliged. A contrary line of conduct will, of course, have contrary effects. Nothing, I believe, but the grossest provocations, or the most wanton injuries and injustice, could drive the Sipahs from his duty and obedience to his European Officer; but a system of neglect, or apparent indifference, will lead him to seek, in other quarters, that advice, assistance, or redress, which he finds it deficient to obtain, where they ought, in policy, no less than in justice be found.

I allude to the Native Commissioned Officers, to whom in this dilemma, the Sipahs will immediately resort, and by whom, his irritation will probably be soothed at the expense of the European Officer; who will thenceforward suffer a loss of much of his own influence, and still more of the affections of his men. The influence of Native Officers, when thus obtained, has been frequently known to proceed to most pernicious lengths. They have always their partialities and dislikes; and, no doubt, too often indulge them, at the expense of justice; but when they have once acquired that influence over the men, which should and would have belonged to the European Officer, but for the neglect above hinted at, it becomes almost impossible for the latter, however much inclined, to do justice to the oppressed or bring down punishment on the oppressor.

Falseness I have before mentioned, as the most prominent vice in the Sipahs' character, and a Native Officer possessed of influence could I firmly believe, (while I blush to write it) produce at any time a dozen witnesses from the ranks of his corps, ready to swear to anything he might think proper to dictate. But let us hasten to leave this unfavorable side of their character, which candour will not allow us to conceal.

It may, perhaps, be supposed, by some, that the system of affability, kindness, and even condescension which I have been recommending, must necessarily in some degree compromise the strictness of discipline, or else become inconsistent with itself; and, I am anxious, therefore, to declare, that as far as my observation and judgement, limited as they are, can lead me to any conclusion; they bring me to one exactly the reverse.—A rigid system of discipline, if conducted with firmness, consistency, and a little of the *suaviter in modo* will I am confident, be invariably found, amongst the Sipahs, to increase their respect without diminishing their regard for their Officers. The only men, who will ever be dissatisfied at it, are the idle, the dissolute, and the worthless; and to consult the pleasure, or wishes of these by the sacrifice of discipline, can never be a source, to any Officer, of either, gratification, pride, or respectability.

Let me now add a few words, on the subject of abuse, or *Galee*. The practice of giving abuse to a Soldier, when deemed deserving of reprobation or punishment, is, I fear much too prevalent amongst our European Officers, and must certainly have bad effects on the minds of the Sipahs. I have at times heard abuse made use of, by Officers, which, if translated into English, would have disgraced the mouth of a Billingsgate fish-woman; and this too addressed to men whose prejudices and particular feelings render it, to them, doubly grating and insulting; to men whose loyalty, bravery, and attachment, have earned themselves a claim on our most unbounded kindness, our regard and gratitude. I have heard this kind of language, addressed to men of high cast family, and spirit; to Soldiers, who rather than have received it, would, with pleasure have submitted to severe corporal punishment; with pleasure would have submitted to the lash of the drummer and trampeter, the still unsullied honours of their backs; backs

which with honest pride they might probably exhibit, (as testimonials of their conduct for years and years) still undefiled by one single stroke of cat or cane.—The impolicy, not to say injustice, of making use of language of the nature alluded to, needs no comment, and I should rejoice exceedingly to see it become as uncommon, in the mouth of an European Officer, as it is low and degrading in itself.—There are many ways of punishing a Soldier, without the use of either the rattan or *galee*; and of all the modes, this latter, (if it can be called a punishment) is indisputably the worst.—It lowers and degrades the man in the eyes of his comrades, and lowers and degrades the Officer, in the eyes of his Soldiers.

There is yet another trifle, which it may be well to allude to, before I conclude.—I mean, the circumstance, that the Natives generally, but particularly those who are well-bred, regard it as the extreme of vulgarity, to be ever in a *rage*.—The philosophic temper of a gentleman, they think ought never to be agitated into violence, or at all events, whatever may be his feelings or provocations, his voice, manner, and gesture, should still remain the same severe and untroubled. This is perhaps one of their best maxims of good breeding; however let it pass. It would be superfluous to make any application of it to the Officers of our Army; but from want of attention to it, will probably not seldom spring a want of respect, and due reverence of character. It has more than once happened to me, to mark the smile of pity and disgust on the face of a soldier whilst his officer was losing himself and his dignity in the mazes of anger and abuse.

I have been tempted much further, by my subject, than I expected when I commenced this imperfect sketch, and must now hasten to conclude. My object, will be fully attained, if this first attempt have the effect of drawing forth the powers of some able pen to do that justice to the subject, which it so well and truly deserves. With a feeble and unsteady hand, I have set the ball in motion; let those who are capable, (which I am not,) carry it on to the goal.

Your obedient Servant,

AN ADJUTANT OF BENGAL CAVALRY.

Calcutta, Oct. 10, 1819.

### Letter to Sir John Macdonald.

To Lieutenant General Sir John Macdonald, K. C. B. Senior Officer of the Bengal Army present in India.

SIR,

In thus venturing to address you through the medium of a Public Journal, without previously obtaining your consent, and that too under a fictitious signature, I feel to the fullest extent, the delicacy of the ground upon which I tread;—but, Sir, I am urged on by the magnitude, of the subject which I shall take the liberty of submitting to your notice and consideration.

In calling your attention to a Letter lately issued from the Mirror Press, bearing the signature of Lieut. McNaghten, wherein that Gentleman pleads so eloquently in favour of the Establishment of a MILITARY FUND, for the further benefit of our, "Brother Officers, their Widows, and Orphans, legitimate as well as illegitimate," I am aware, that there are some people who may accuse me of impertinence and presumption, but, Sir, I am not to be turned from my object, by such a consideration. I feel the purity of the motives by which I am actuated, and I trust, Sir, you will give me credit for them.

In this hope I shall without any further preface, respectfully request you to peruse the Letter in question, together with its Addenda, containing the Rules and Regulations of the Madras Military Fund. If, Sir, after an attentive perusal of these, you should be of opinion, that the establishing a MILITARY FUND in this ARMY upon the same or a nearly similar footing, with those of the SISTER PRESIDENCIES, would be attended with the beneficial results which the amiable and humane *Young Soldier* so sanguinely (and with apparent justice) leads us to expect may I, Sir, (among many others with whom I have conversed on this subject, many of them Field Officers) be permitted to solicit your patronage and support to the undertaking.

To whom, respected Sir, can we look up for aid with more propriety, than to you; who, having served in the Bengal Army with honour and credit to yourself, and with benefit to our Honourable Employers, for upwards of half a century, may be justly styled the "Father of the Bengal Army." It does not come within my present intention to enter into any details connected with this interesting subject. My sole object is to secure to the proposed Establishment, the protection and support of one who is so eminently calculated to add to its weight, in the opinion of the Army in general; and if it should hereafter appear, that I have been any way instrumental in obtaining this boon, for the Friends of the "Bengal Military Fund," I shall ever revert to it, with heartfelt pride and pleasure.

I have the honor to subscribe myself, Respected Sir,

With every sentiment of esteem, Your most obedient Servant,

Calcutta, Oct. 29, 1819.

CENTURION.



## Books.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir, I think it were well, if the Philosophers, Sciolists, and Pseudo Philosophers of the present age, would remember the words of King Solomon of old: "And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh." (a). But so far, Sir, from this being the case, books are now-a-days multiplied without end. Both learned and unlearned continue to write eternally, not very often on totally new subjects, but on old ones over and over again; and, very frequently, the new book does not explain the old subject, half as well as it had been explained a century before. This may truly be called the book-making age, and a certain wicked German has, I understand, lately contrived to work his press by steam, so that at last, I am very apprehensive, that you will not be able to walk the streets of any city in Europe, without your being liable to get your skull fractured by the tumbling of a folio or quarto, from some of the windows of the upper stories of the houses as you go along.

It is quite amusing to read the dreams of the learned on the loss of the Alexandrian library. Some say, I think it was the luckiest thing for the world that could happen, and that, instead of the execrations which have been so liberally bestowed upon Omar, a monument ought to be erected to his memory as a benefactor to mankind. This library was said to contain 700,000 volumes. Dear me! Had they all been preserved, what an awful visitation would Europe have undergone of commentaries, translations, notes and notices, variantes lectiones, &c. &c. &c. and the wicked German above alluded to, might be at this day more mischievously employed in publishing some of them, than he is perhaps at present, and true knowledge be thereby considerably impeded.

We know how imperfect the knowledge of the ancients was, in most of the sciences and arts; then why regret the loss of those bewildering luminaries? Abundant false reasoning, silly history, and tradition have they left us, to confound us of our happy riddance of the remaining "stores of absurdity and nonsense." Half our modern knowledge arises from the discovery of former error, and the investigation of nature is quite as easy now, as 2000 years ago, nay, considerably easier, ingenuity having discovered so many helps which they never possessed. I must question the solidity of Solomon's observation, that "there is nothing new under the sun." Query, did he ever behold the heavens with a telescope, like Herschel? or light up his apartments with Gas Lights? or ride on a Velocipede?

Aristotle and Plato's works were, however, preserved (among others of minor importance) to introduce wrangling, and false philosophy, into modern Europe. Twelve thousand authors, wrote either Commentaries, Translations, Scholastic Readings, Paraphrases, &c. &c. on Aristotle alone! *Ex uno disce omnes*; this is an argumentum *a fortiori*. Most of these sapient productions slumber in undisturbed tranquillity; *requiescant in pace!*

What think you, Sir, of Illustrissimus Ferri, (b) who wrote eleven hundred Sermons on the Epistle to the Hebrews alone? and Baillet gave an account of Anti's, or books written against others; he had also a design of writing a catalogue of all such as were intended to be written. Arcillon composed a catalogue of learned men, who wrote nothing at all! To these latter gentlemen, I consider posterity greatly indebted for their forbearance.

It appears to me singular, that among all the great libraries in Europe, not one has been formed on the plan of possessing a copy of every printed book; most of them, indeed, I believe all, contain, duplicates, triplicates, &c. of the same edition. I should like to see such an establishment formed, with the exception, however, of such books as disgrace humanity, of which I fear too many exist in the world.

Yes, Mr. Editor, and I think we are not at all at a loss for Encyclopedias of all sizes and papers. I was in hopes, that Rees would have demolished the hopes of the rest, but no such thing, for I saw the Encyclopædia Metropolitana advertised a few days ago, and this is to demolish Rees. I wish all these learned gentlemen would have the charity to let work alone, and that they would endeavour to render any one established work, as perfect as humanity would admit, rather than write all the articles *de novo*. I still admire the Encyclopædia Britannica, (c) and would indeed rejoice to see a good edition of it improved. Thus most of the articles of Asiatic Geography are defective or faulty: purchase the copy-right of Mr. Hamilton's Gazetteer and insert it bodily when required. Many articles are better explained in Hutton's Mathematical Dictionary than in the Encyclopædia Britannica. Why not insert them as they are from Hutton instead? and so with all other subjects, omitting what is faulty, supplying what is deficient, and allowing what is good to remain.

Engraving has done for painting, what printing has for writing, and many little Misses or puerous young Gentlemen who suppose they are inspired by the Muse, get their nice *ne verses* polished up by some book-wright, presented to the world with vignette engravings of the author or authoress, hot-pressed, fine type, "a rivulet of text in a meadow of margin!" This, my dear Mr. Editor, is bad enough, but there are other silly people so fond of the beautiful black letter, that they have obliged the public with expensive reprints in legible letters, of old books exceedingly scarce, and not the less nonsensical for that, as for instance, "The Gull's Hornbook."

(a) Ecclesiastics chap. 12 v. 12.

(b) These names are from memory, not having their Works by me.

(c) I have only seen the 3d edition.

I rejoice in seeing a fine edition of a right good author, but a bad one in a fine dress, is like an ass in the trappings of a charger. I have sometimes thought, that a large collection of well printed, well bound, new books, was somewhat like a crowd in the boxes of a theatre, where, though all appear gentlemen and ladies, yet pick-pockets, perhaps, may not be scarce among them.

I think it was Hippocrates who remarked that "Art is long and life short." Alas! we all must feel the truth of this observation, yet how many useless hours do we lose, in perusing either absolute nonsense, or error in the garb of science! I take it as certain; that most men consider themselves more wise at 20 than at 40; and why? because in early life, imagination often supersedes calm reasoning, an error of our intellect which experience rectifies. It is however one of the grievances of old age, to find theories and systems, which we considered established in our youth, totally overthrown by other theories and systems, destined, perhaps, to share the same fate. Where are we to find true knowledge, or is it given to man to discover that on which he may rest with certainty? Yes, we may I think with certainty confide in the doctrines of pure Mathematics, Newton's Principia, and above all, the Holy Scriptures.

Nothing is so distracting or ill-judged as to read very many books on the same subject, for instance a Grammar of the French language. French Grammars are very numerous, but all tell you the same thing, with more or less of perspicuity. Better by far, to read with patient attention any one, and that repeatedly. I remember when a student, I used to delight in wandering over a large library, taking down one volume after another, reading a page in this and a page in that, and supposing I was acquiring knowledge thereby. I found however, eventually, that I was only filling my brain with a "rudis indigestaque moles" of ideas, a very jumble of I know not what, and of which I could make no manner of use, either in thinking or acting.

"Non omnia possumus omnes" was well said by whoever said it, and is most true. It is melancholy to see how many of the noblest literary geniuses have exhausted their spirit and worn out their corporeal frame, by grasping at the acquisition of a degree of knowledge unattainable by man. The great Sir William Jones was perhaps one of these, he sought to be a Buonaparte of Literature, and to subdue the whole world of Science. D'Alembert's nurse, who never took him for a great man, said to him one day, "You will never be any thing but a philosopher, and what is a philosopher? A fool who toils and plagues himself during his life, that people may talk of him when he is no more!"

It is also one of the faults of modern books of science, that they profess to teach them, without demanding that degree of attention from the student, which they most assuredly require. The learned in former days grew pale by the light of the midnight lamp. In the days of Erasmus they were comparatively few, but solidly learned were they, of which their works bear witness. Had we fewer books, and those not written with such a suavity of diction as to make the rugged road to science appear like a garden walk, I think we should have more really learned men, and much fewer Sciolists and Pseudo-philosophers. Men fail in acquiring that knowledge they wish, either by attempting that which is above their capacity, or underrating the quantity of mental exertion required in its attainment; the consequence of which is, that when serious difficulties occur and that it is found not so easy as expected, the person gives it up in despair as unattainable, somewhat in the way a young gentleman of my acquaintance did, who assured me nothing could be easier than to learn the Gentoo language "I shall spend about three months, says he, in learning it, but shant take much trouble about it, as I only want to read and write and speak it!" Well, the consequence was, that finding it more difficult than he expected, he shortly after gave it up in despair.

Altho' I am far from having exhausted the interesting subject of books, I fear Mr. Editor I have long ago exhausted your patience. You will, perhaps with many of your readers exclaim *Oh! jam satis!* Therefore,

Vive et Vale

Your Constant Reader.

T.

Not 1000 miles from Ganjam, }  
Oct. 3, 1819. }

## American Antiquities.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

As your justly-esteemed and valuable Journal embraces every department of science, and is a receptacle for all that can interest the feelings, or expand the human mind; I have taken the liberty to introduce to your notice an extract from an American publication, which from the singular chronological inferences to be deduced from it, will I have no doubt prove highly entertaining to your scientific readers.

"Besides those ruins in the Illinois and Wabash countries, which have often been mentioned, there are others no less remarkable, many hundreds of miles farther west, particularly in the country about the great falls of Mississippi. As we approach these falls, commonly called St. Anthony's, we frequently meet with pyramids of earth, from thirty to seventy, and even eighty feet in height. These are most probably, the tombs of the ancient Kings and Chieftains of this part of America, though there are others which I am inclined to believe were erected in consequence of some signal victory, and possibly to cover the bones and carcases of the slain. In digging horizontally into several of these pyramids, a little above the base, we generally found a stratum of white substance somewhat like white lime, and glutinous withal, extending in all probability, several yards within, or perhaps nearly the whole length of the diametrical line.

There is every reason to believe this consolidated chalky substance to be the remains of skeletons buried perhaps two hundred centuries ago, and converted by time and the operations of the elements into their present state. Many tokens remain on both sides of the Mississippi of their being in ancient ages as well cultivated and as thickly inhabited as the country on the Danube or the Rhine; which fully proves, that the literati have been too hasty in denominating America a new world, or an original present to the European, from the hands of rude nature.

A copper mine was opened some years since, further down the Mississippi, and to the great surprise of the labourers, a large collection of the mining tools were found several fathoms below the superficies of the earth. Another person in digging for a well, discovered a furnace of brick wall five fathoms below the present surface; and in this furnace were found a quantity of coals and firebrands, which for aught we know might have been kindled in the days of Moses or Lycurgus.

Not long since at a spot in the Ohio, when the bank had been washed by the undermining of the water, a stone dropped out of the hardest kind of black marble, about seven pounds in weight, having twelve equal surfaces, each surface being mathematically equilateral and equiangular, five sided figures; this does not appear to be a *usus nature*, but a work of exquisite art, the offspring of human ingenuity.

Near the falls of the Mississippi there is a salt spring in the bed of the river, which has been enclosed with stone work of unknown antiquity, to keep out the fresh water. In times of freshes, however, the river overflows the stone-work and mixes with the brine, so that it does not afford salt herabouts until the river is considerably fallen.

In several places, circular fortifications have been discovered in the same country, these are constantly enclosed with deep ditches and fenced with a breast work. From these and many other similar remains of antiquity, one would be inclined to think the world much older than had been commonly imagined. Several tribes on the great river above-mentioned, date their existence for more than seventy thousand moons back, and the Indians of the western world go infinitely farther back into the depths of time, though both relate many events of these distant periods, that are evidently mixed with fable.

Much information on this interesting subject may be derived from Lewis and Clarke's Tour to the Pacific Ocean across the continent of America, undertaken in 1808, by order of the American Government.

The speculative philosopher, and the scientific antiquarian who glories in deep and laborious researches into the depths of time, will here find an ample field for the display of talent, and materials for a new hypothesis. At least I hope the extract I have ventured to obtrude on your notice may be found interesting to your numerous readers.

Dinapore, Oct. 12, 1819.

E. J.

### Addenda.

In the year 1768, an Inscription was discovered on a rock, near the sea coast at Dighton in Massachusetts. It was then considered to be the rude work of the Indians of the country, but it has since been affirmed to be in oriental characters, and the following remarks on this singular antiquity may deserve a place here:

"Many attempts have been made to decypher the inscription; the characters are partly alphabetical partly hieroglyphical. We have a very accurate copy of it before us—and have made several attempts at interpretation and decyphering. The letters are Oriental, partaking of the characteristic forms of the Sanscrit and the Talmic, and written from right to left; but the story, for it appears to be an historical record, begins on the left, and proceeds to the right, there being, apparently three acts, referring to the past, the present, and the future, and signifying whence the authors of the inscription came, their number and intercourse with the natives, and their intention to return whence they came; it is not possible to transcribe it without a drawing, but the apparent subject is, that the inscription was of persons, by sea from the eastward who, on landing, paid their first devotions to the divinity of the country whence they came, that is Boodh, or the genius of fecundity; also, a symbol of Minerva and Isis. The head of a hawk indicates infinite wisdom, and also the north wind, which conducted them to the spot; there are some other figures and letters, which admit of many interpretations.

"The second scene, which is in the then present, is more diffused, and the figures, dispersed; there is a vessel with its masts, flags, and long rudder, as in the oriental vessels at this day—there is a figure of a horse, which is the well known symbol of Carthage. There is a human figure, or bust, upon the breast of which is a Trident, emblematic of Neptune, and also of the Oriental Trinity, of the good and evil, and of the mediatory powers, the same as Vishnou, Sieb, and Brama, which under one or another name, have been found in the religions of all nations.

"The subject generally appears to be intended to commemorate the arrival of a people there from the ocean and the east, and who, having had intercourse with the natives, had resolved to return, and had written thus on that rock, to commemorate that event: the characters indicate an oriental origin; but whether from Phœnicia or Carthage, or elsewhere, is not ascertainable; that it is of great antiquity; that it is a record of some kind, cannot be a moment doubted. Though the hieroglyphics are many and crowded, yet there is a method in it which renders it beyond doubt, intended to communicate facts, and the oriental characters are to be found in all the eastern alphabets."

## Medical Facts and Opinions.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

I beg leave to return my cordial acknowledgements to CHIRUKAWA LONDINGENS, for the liberal and professional manner in which he notices my medical opinions, and to assure him, that I feel great satisfaction in complying with the request, as far as the limits of this communication will permit, with which he has honoured me.

1st. In the production of the prevailing distemper; I deny the presence of any state of predisposition being necessary to account for the occurrence of the disease.

2d. I deny the agency of marsh miasmata, conditions of atmosphere, variations of temperature, exposure to the sun, bile, &c. to claim any share whatever in its production; and maintain, that its origin, symptoms, and progress are totally independent of, and uninfluenced by, such causes.

3d. I believe Rice, generally speaking, and even of the best kind, to be immutinous food, that is, I imagine the very best description of Rice to be inferior in point of the nutritious principle to Wheat, and some other farinaceous seeds; and that if the proportion of nutriment in the latter is as eight, that afforded by the former (Rice) is not more than one. Hence, no person is enabled, for any length of time, to live upon Rice solely, without its exhibiting symptoms of disease, as Beriberi, &c.

4th. But the *Onse Rice of Bengal*, or the crop cut immediately subsequent to the rains, and especially if the preceding season has been remarkable, as was the case in 1817, (for an immoderate fall of rain I conceive to be highly noxious,) and its use as food to be followed by the presence of various disorders, all dependant upon one proximate cause, viz. different degrees of erythematic inflammation excited within the stomach and intestines.

5th. This morbid state appears to be generated in great measure from the operation of an acrid chemical agent, contained in the grain, and which seems to partake of an oleaginous nature, in consequence of the feld smell constantly omitted from this kind of Rice, and its oily appearance.

6th. Disease and even Death have been asserted to follow only one meal of this kind of Rice. My own experience, however, seems to prove, that these consequences succeed to repeated meals composed of this deleterious food.

7th. When the inflammation, excited in the extremities of the visceral nerves, takes place in the slightest degree, and proceeds slowly, the disease is manifested by shivering, head-ache, and other symptoms of pure Intermittent Fever, and this I nominate the first stage of *Morbus Oryzeus*, when the inflammation is present to greater degree, and a determination of blood takes place in the liver, so as to produce an increased secretion of bile, the existence of the inflammation within the stomach and bowels is then known by the symptoms indicating a low, nervous, jaundic, yellow or Typhus Fever, as accidental circumstances happen to combine at the moment, and this I term the second stage of *Morbus Oryzeus* or degree of intensity in which the disease occurs. But when the inflammation proceeds to its fullest extent, the distemper is then full formed *Morbus Oryzeus*, Cholera Morbus, or *Mort de Chien*, destroying the patient with the rapidity of poison.

8th. These different forms of disease, arising from the employment of noxious Rice, I prove by cases, contained in my Work upon this subject which has been forwarded to the Printer, and will I hope appear in the course of two or three months, to have been exhibited in the course of the malady that has been, and still is ravaging British India.

9th. These diseases annually appear in Bengal, upon the Onse harvest being cut, and have erroneously been termed, the Epidemics of the season, depending upon marsh miasmata; predisposing causes &c.

10th. Bengal Onse Rice, and of the most deleterious kind, was disseminated over all India, towards the close of 1817, and during the year 1818. A specimen, procured at Allahabad, is herewith transmitted. Billions of maunds of the same poison have been sold as food throughout the country; hence the general prevalence of the pestilence.

11th. The following Copy of a Note, which I lately received from a friend, affords strong confirmation to the facts contained in the valuable Letter of Lieutenant Sleeman.

DEAR TYTLER,

"Your Letters respecting the Cholera Morbus, bring a circumstance to my recollection which took place at the period that fatal disease committed such ravages amongst the Bearers and Camp-followers of the Centre Division of the Grand Army. It is as follows, A Servant of mine, a Carpenter, got leave to go to his village for the space of a month, but he came back in a few days with a report, that fifty people had died in the village, and all from eating Rice lately arrived in Boats from Bengal, which had been sold at a cheap rate. The man was in consequence so much prejudiced against Rice, that he could not bear the sight of it. This village was situated near the Bank of the river Goomtee."

Trusting that these circumstances may in some degree tend to attract the attention of your Correspondent still further to this important subject,

I remain, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

R. TYTLER, M. D.

Allahabad, Oct. 20, 1819.



## Sword Rockets.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

I beg to transmit to you a Sketch of what may perhaps be a novelty to some of your Military readers, for insertion, with the following paragraphs, if you deem it a subject of sufficient interest for the columns of your Journal:—

The celebrated Congreve Rocket has been evidently borrowed from the Asiatics. It may be doubted, whether in its simple, original state, it may not remain more capable of being wielded with precision than in its improved condition as transmitted from Europe.

Congreve has added greatly to the range of the Rocket, by his celebrated composition. Those of a larger size, received in India, can alone be depended upon, on service.

In the service of the late Rajahs of Nagpore, some ingenuity was shewn by rejecting the bamboo or stick usually attended to a Rocket; and substituting a long double edged sword, the edge of the blade being placed perpendicular to the cylindrical tube, according to the annexed Sketch; thus adding considerably to the dismay caused amongst young troops, by the effect of ground Rockets.

The promulgation of such an invention in England, would entitle a person to a Patent, and very likely be the means of putting some money into his pocket.

Yours, &c,

A. Q. T.

Nagpore, Oct. 15, 1819.

## Bengal Artillery.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

Your Journal of the 7th instant I have just received, and have read with pleasure the Letter Signed Cæsus, on Brevet Rank. I will not suppose, that one who handles an argument with so much good nature could voluntarily have made a misstatement; but that he has mis-stated, I shall elucidate by a few figures. He says, "The Artillery have one Field Officer to every 5 inferiors." Let him again refer to an Army List, and the General Orders of 1st. September 1818, and he will see, that the Artillery actually have,

4 Colonels,	} to {	44 Captains,
8 Lieutenant Colonels,		80 Lieutenants,
9 Majors,		53 2d. Lieutenants,
21 Field Officers,		176 Inferiors.

which, by a simple division, gives one Field Officer to about 8½ inferiors.

I am not inclined to combat any of the arguments that the other branches may advance for promotion or augmentation; because I can perceive, and am ready to allow, that the Infantry have not enough of Officers, and although augmentation must at the moment cause supercession to that branch which does not partake of it; if the several ranks are proportioned properly to each other, and in all the branches alike, the supercession could not last longer than a few years.

The natural course of affairs must rest on the equilibrium. It is not therefore a fair argument, that one has got a little in advance by augmentation, that therefore they have gained an advantage. The individuals promoted no doubt benefit; but the individuals joining suffer in proportion. The augmentation in the Infantry goes on steadily and regularly, corps by corps, as they are wanted. Officers therefore rise gradually, and the sudden lifts to be seen in the Artillery do not shew themselves.

The Artillery was now organized in 1796, since which the only augmentation they have had, was 3 Companies and 3 Field Officers, that is the only augmentation in Officers. But their ranks had been nearly tripled, by one addition and another; and about one-third of the Regiments scattered over the country under Officers of other corps.

This called for amelioration, Officers were allowed in proportion to the men; but the relative proportion of ranks was maintained, and as will appear above, the Honorable Court have only given the Artillery that proportion of Field Officers now established for the Infantry; the lowest in the Service, and even a trifle lower than that.

By this augmentation, no doubt many of our young men supersede the Infantry; but where you contemplate one Junior Major, whose age does not differ 15 years from the youngest man joining the Regiment; and where you view the awful gulph of 44 Captains, 80 Lieutenants, and 57 2d. Lieutenants, between the two (175 steps,) it will readily be granted, that he has no chance of superseding the young Tyro joining the Infantry; or indeed any other branch of the Service, which has a fair mixture of old and young, which

has in fact risen to its present strength by slow steps; or which like the Infantry has been nearly tripled, and more than doubled by degrees.

With this prospect it must be many years before the Regiment of Artillery can even overtake the Infantry, for Senior Subalterns are now little before the Infantry in their promotion, and will lose on it every year, not so much from disparity of numbers in each rank, as from the sudden effect of the augmentation having thrown young men into ranks commonly filled with others in advanced life.

The Artillery therefore, Sir, cannot afford to have their Ratio of Field Officers rated at the proportion which Cæsus mentions;—and should no one have come forward before you get this, he will not I hope think the worse of one who wishes every branch well, but who loves his own too much not to rectify so great a mistake.

I have the honor to be Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Cawnpore, October 17, 1819.

TOP KHANA.

P.S. When I say in proportion to the men, I do not mean in proper proportion. The 4th Battalion has about 1800 men and 13 Officers which even for Natives is as low as need be.

## Irregular Cavalry.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

The Writer of the Letter to the Most Noble the Marquis of Hastings, whilst he eulogises the chivalrous gallantry of our Irregular Cavalry, their fidelity, &c. carried away by the warmth of his predilections in their favor, overlooks circumstances that militate against the policy (to say nothing of the extravagant expense) of retaining in the service, Troops of this description, beyond the number required for police duties, escorts at foreign courts, and other rough work.

With regard to their gallantry in the charge, let the conduct of Cunningham's Corps, at Bareilly, speak; it is well known, that when they were ordered to charge the rabble, that on approaching them they opened from the centre, and fortunately our Infantry took advantage of the circumstance to fire through the interval thus unexpectedly made.

Let the Officers of the 1st Light Cavalry and Quarter Master General's Department speak as to the devotion and courage of the same corps in the charge on Jeswant Rao Bhow's Infantry and guns at Joud. The late Col. Frith could have borne testimony of their attachment, as all his corps deserted him in one night at Kassgunge, during the Mahratta war in 1803, 4. and 5, and Colonel Skinner, during the same campaign, it is well known, followed with a select party; a great portion of his own corps who had deserted and fortunately succeeded in cutting the majority of them up.

Let the Writer of the Letter alluded to enquire into the state and fitness of Gardner's Corps, of the Corps recently transferred to his Highness the Nawab (name illegible,) of Sneyd's Corps, and of the three Corps of Ramporra Local Cavalry, after which, let him look over the panegyric he has penned, and pronounce judgement on the grounds upon which he endeavours to establish an erroneous opinion of an Irregular Cavalry, who are only fit for the rough duties in camp, which during the existing paucity of regular Troops renders some auxiliaries indispensably necessary; but as to the confidence to be placed in them in the hour of exigency, danger, and battle, let not the Government be deceived, let its own wisdom and experience alone influence measures for which it is responsible, and upon which the safety and peace of our Indian Empire depends.

I must not here deny myself the satisfaction of paying a merited tribute to Skinner's and Roberts's Horse; but place other Commanders at their head, and I will venture to assert, that all the men of character and reputation will withdraw themselves from the service, and that even if these celebrated Corps were to be impartially inspected and reported upon, it would be found, that not more than three-tenths of the whole were in the possession of the confidence and good opinion of their Commanding Officers, or fit for any kind of serious service.

The Writer of this stricture on that part of the Letter addressed to the Governor General, relative to the Irregular Cavalry, does not mean to enhance the usefulness of one class by detracting from the merits of another; but is merely desirous that a just estimate of the two classes be obtained, and to aid the Government in coming at the best information on this subject, Col. Skinner is pointed out as the source from whence is to be derived all the knowledge requisite for forming a good and correct opinion; and his being the Commandant of a large and comparatively distinguished body of Irregulars, will prevent the possibility of its being imagined, that their deserts have not been done ample justice to, by his testimony; whilst his known integrity, purity, and highmindedness will ensure a strict, manly, and candid avowal of his real sentiments respecting the two classes, and the degree of reliance that sound policy and reflection should place upon each.

These remarks on the Letter before alluded to, would never have been sent forth, had the person who addressed his Lordship, confined himself to a more measured encomium.

(Signed) OLD IMPARTIALITY.

Upper Provinces Oct. 1, 1819.

## Appointments.

### BOMBAY CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

Ollyett Woodhouse, Esq. to be Advocate General.  
Mr. John Kentish to be Acting Register to the Sudder Adawlut and Superior Tribunal.  
Mr. G. M. Blair to be Assistant to the Register in the Eastern Zillah North of the Myhee.  
Mr. H. Borradaile to be Assistant to the Register in the Southern Concan.  
Mr. H. Shee to be Second Assistant to the Collector of the Eastern Zillah North of the Myhee.

### MADRAS APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. M. Lewin, Register of the Zillah Court at Tellicherry.  
Lieutenant H. Fullerton, and Lieutenant Duncan Sim, Superintendent of Tank Repairs.

## Government Orders.

### BOMBAY GENERAL ORDERS.

General Orders, by the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council.

BOMBAY CASTLE, October 9, 1819.

His Excellency Lieutenant General the Honorable Sir Charles Colville, G. C. B. having this day arrived from England in the Honorable Company's Ship Barrosa, has taken his seat as second-member of the Council and Commander in Chief of the Forces on the Establishment of this Presidency, in pursuance of his appointment to those situations by the Honorable the Court of Directors.

His Excellency Lieutenant General the Honorable Sir Charles Colville, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Hon'ble Military Order of the Bath, appointed by the Hon'ble the Court of Directors to the command of the Hon'ble Company's Forces serving under the Presidency of Bombay, having landed this morning from the Honorable Company's chartered Ship Barrosa and been sworn in as second in Council of Bombay, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council orders and directs, that all Officers and soldiers on the Establishment of Bombay, do obey Lieutenant General Sir Charles Colville, and that all returns be made to him as Commander in Chief accordingly.

Lieutenant General Sir Charles Colville is to take his seat as President of the Military Board in virtue of his appointment of Commander in Chief.

Francis Warden, Esq. retiring from Council, is directed to resume charge of his situation of Chief Secretary to the Government.

By Order of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council,

F. WARDEN, Chief Sec. to Govt.

## Domestic Occurrences.

### BIRTHS.

At the Presidency, on the 29th of October, the Lady of R. Spankle, Esq. Advocate General, of a Daughter.

At the Presidency, on the 30th of October, Mrs. Tucker, wife of Mr. Wm. Tucker, of the Custom House, of a Daughter.

At Bangalore, on the 3rd of October, the Lady of Lieutenant W. Peyton, 10th N. I. of a Daughter.

At Madras, on the 13th of October, the Lady of John Dent, Esq. of the Civil Service, of a Daughter.

At Cannanore, on the 22nd of September, the Lady of C. J. R. Ellis, Esq. of a Daughter.

At St. Thome, on the 12th of October, Mrs. E. Barrett, of a Daughter.

At Black Town, Madras, on the 9th of October, Mary Euphemia, the wife of Mr. G. D. McCarthy, of a son.

### DEATHS.

In August last, at Saloomah, a dependency on Fort Marlbro', Mr. Frederick Garling, of the Beencoolen Civil Service (formerly of Penang), very much regretted. He was precipitated from his buggy in consequence of a part of the harness having broken, which rendered the horse unmanageable; and he survived the accident only a few hours. This was the gentleman who was employed by the local government at Beencoolen, to proceed on the mission for the rescue of the crew of the Union from the island of Engano.

At Penang, on the 28th of September, after a short but very painful illness, Mrs. McIntyre, wife of Mr. A. McIntyre. Her conduct through life in every situation, was the result of religious principles granted on a mind naturally strong and directing the impulses of a tender and generous heart.—Beldred and regretted by her relations and friends, who could appreciate her merits and uniform performance of all the amiable and endearing duties of domestic life, she resigned her soul without a sigh into the hands of a merciful God.—Her relations will affectionately cherish the memory of her virtue.

"Her happy soul (the pang of death soon o'er)

"Shook off its cumbering dust—and being free,

"Wafted by faith's soft gales, began to soar—

"And sprung on wings of hope, to glory!"

Printed at the Union Press, in Gerstin's Buildings, near the Bankshall and the Exchange.

## Shipping Intelligence.

### CALCUTTA ARRIVALS.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Oct. 30	Catherine	British	T. Howard	Penang	Oct. 3

### CALCUTTA DEPARTURES.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
Oct. 30	Eclipse	British	James Stewart	London
31	Chicken	Dutch	J. Intveld	Peking
31	Mentor	Amerca.	S. Greenland	New York

### MADRAS ARRIVALS.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Oct. 9	Providence	British	Henry Moon	Calcutta	Sept. 8
11	Pilot	British	Samuel Owen	Colombo	Oct. 4
11	Brothers	British	C. B. McNicol	Sea	
12	Dortel	British	W. M. Hamwell	Coriega	Oct. 6
12	Blenheim	British	W. Shirley	Calcutta	Sept 13

### MADRAS DEPARTURES.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
Oct. 8	Anna Catherine	British	Barbett	Tringomalee
6	Princess Charlotte	British	D. Frislie	Traungbar
9	Four Sisters	British	J. Daniels	Rangoon
9	Catherine	British	W. Knox	London
9	Prince Regent	British	Richmond	Scotland
31	Fanny	British	J. B. Smith	Mauritius
11	Brig Brothers	British	C. B. McNicol	Tringomalee

### PENANG ARRIVALS.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Sept. 24	Aune	British	J. Pereira	Acheen	Aug. 11
26	Futet Rahmin	Arab	John Brun	Sea	
27	Sala Salamao	Arab	Alley	Quedah	Sept. 25
28	Hope	British	P. Thissel	Pedir	Sept. 10
29	Carmar	Arab	Shaik Mahomed	Telukamaw	Sept. 21
29	Hammur	Arab	Noquda Camoly	Nagore	Sept. 1
30	Bridgewater	British	C. S. Timins, Esq.	England	Apr. 3
30	Sophie	Arab	Noquda	Malacca	Sept. 18

### PENANG DEPARTURES.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Sept. 26	Lovely Tish	British	Smalljee	Calcutta	
27	Cereus	British	Smith	Calcutta	

## Nautical Notices.

We learn by a Bombay Courier Extraordinary, published on the morning of the 9th of October, that the Honorable Company's chartered ship Barossa, Captain Hutchinson, was then standing up the harbour, having left the Downs on the 6th of May, and the Cape on the 19th of August. His Excellency Lieutenant General the Honorable Sir Charles Colville G. C. B. K. T. S. the Commander in Chief, had immediately landed at the Dock Head under the salutes and honors due to his rank, and proceeded to the Government House.

The Elizabeth and Tottenham, free-traders, were expected to leave Madras, for England, about the middle of October. They convey ship-letter Packets.

We learn by the Madras Government Gazette of the 14th of October, that some vessels employed in the Slave Trade, had been captured by His Majesty's Ships off the Isle of France, condemned; and sold

## Passengers.

### Per Barossa, from England to Bombay.

Sir Charles Colville, G. C. B. K. T. S., Lieutenant-Colonel Blair, Major Jackson, Captain Lamy, Mr. Grant, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Kane, Mr. Pratt, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hagart, Mr. Troward, Mr. Duff, Mr. Hall, Mr. Waring, Mr. Pinching, Mr. Ennis, Lady Colville, Mrs. Lamy, Mrs. Kane, Miss Muir, Miss Frankland, Miss Campbell, Miss Cooke, three Native Servants, and fifty Recruits for the 47th Regiment.

### Per Elizabeth, from Madras to England.

The Baroness de Kutzleben, Mrs. George Anderson, Mrs. Major Lynch and Miss Lynch, Miss Hadwen, Surgeon Peppin, 24th N. I. Captain Hadwen, 20th N. I. Lieut. A. Campbell, H. M. 46th, in charge of Invalids. Children.—Gertrude Wottesley de Kutzleben, Mary George, Letitia Susan Smith, and an infant child of Mrs. George Anderson.

### Per Tottenham, from Madras to England.

Captain J. Hackett of the 6th Regiment Native Infantry.

### Per Pilot, for Madras.

Mr. G. R. Keltich, Cadet, from England, Lieutenant W. Kern, of the Artillery, John Patterson, Esq. Surgeon, 12th Regt. B. N. I. and Lieutenant Davies H. M. 19th Regt. from the Cape, Lieutenant Biscoe Royal Engineers, from Calcutta.